

REMARKS

Claims 1 – 13 and 33 – 40 are pending in the present application. Claims 4, 7 – 9, 13 and 33 – 40 are cancelled without prejudice, leaving Claims 1 – 3, 5, 6 and 10 - 12 for consideration upon entry of the amendment. No new matter has been introduced by these amendments. Reconsideration and allowance of the Claims is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

Amended Claim

Claim 1 has been amended to better define the invention. No new matter has been introduced by this amendment.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U. S. C. §102(b)

Claims 1 – 3, 5, 6 and 10 – 12 are rejected under 35 U. S. C. § 102 (b) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,152,347 to Pletka et al. (Pletka) (Office Action dated 04/22/04, page 3).

To anticipate a claim under 35 U.S.C. § 102, a single source must contain all of the elements of the claim. *Lewmar Marine Inc. v. Barient, Inc.*, 827 F.2d 744, 747, 3 U.S.P.Q.2d 1766, 1768 (Fed. Cir. 1987), *cert. denied*, 484 U.S. 1007 (1988).

Claim 1 as presently amended is directed to a blocked mercaptosilane selected from the group consisting of

$[(ROC(=O))_p-(G)_j]_k-Y-S]_r-G-(SiX_3)_s$ (1); and

$[(X_3Si)_q-G]_a-[Y-[S-G-SiX_3]_b]_c$ (2)

wherein Y is a polyvalent species $(Q)_zA(=E)$ selected from the group consisting of -
 $C(=NR)-; -SC(=NR)-; -SC(=O)-; -S(=O)-; -S(=O)_2-; -OS(=O)_2-; (-NR)S(=O)_2-; -SS(=O)-;$
 $-OS(=O)-; (-NR)S(=O)-; -SS(=O)_2-; -(S)P(=O)-; -P(=O)(-)_2; -(S)P(=S)-; -P(=S)(-)_2; (-$
 $NR)_2P(=O)-; (-NR)(-S)P(=O)-; (-O)(-NR)P(=O)-; -(O)P(=O)-; -(NR)P(=O)-; (-$
 $NR)_2P(=S)-; (-NR)(-S)P(=S)-; (-O)(-NR)P(=S)-; -(O)P(=S)-; and -(NR)P(=S)-; and -($
 $NR)P(=S)-;$ wherein the atom A, attached to unsaturated heteroatom E is attached to the sulfur which in turn is linked via a group G to the silicon atom; each R is chosen independently from hydrogen, straight, cyclic, or branched alkyl that may or may not contain unsaturation, alkenyl groups, aryl groups, and aralkyl groups, with each R

containing from 1 to 18 carbon atoms; each G is independently a monovalent or polyvalent group derived by substitution of alkyl, alkenyl, aryl, or aralkyl wherein G can contain from 1 to 18 carbon atoms, and if G is univalent, G can be a hydrogen atom; X is independently selected from the group consisting of -Cl, -Br, RO-, RC(=O)O-, R₂C=NO-, R₂NO-, R₂N-, -R, and -(OSiR₂)_t(OSiR₃) wherein each R is as above and at least one X is not -R; p is 0 to 5; r is 1 to 3; z is 0 to 2; q is 0 to 6; a is 0 to 7; b is 1 to 3; j is 0 to 1, but it may be 0 only if p is 1; c is 1 to 6; t is 0 to 5; s is 1 to 3; k is 1 to 2; with the provisos that (I) if A is carbon, sulfur, or sulfonyl, then (i) a + b is 2 and (ii) k is 1; (II) if A is phosphorus, then a + b is 3 unless both (i) c is greater than 1 and (ii) b is 1, in which case a is c + 1; and (III) if A is phosphorus, then k is 2.

A careful review of the structures disclosed in Pletka in Col. 4, lines 49 to Col. 6, line 10 reveals that none of them anticipate the blocked mercaptosilanes disclosed in formulas (1) and (2) above. For this reason at least, Pletke does not disclose all elements of the claimed invention. Applicants therefore respectfully request a withdrawal of the rejection from under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b) and an allowance of the claims.

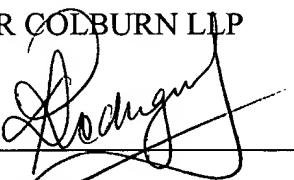
It is believed that the foregoing amendments and remarks fully comply with the Office Action and that the claims herein should now be allowable to Applicants. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance is requested.

If there are any additional charges with respect to this amendment or otherwise, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 07-0888.

Respectfully submitted,

CANTOR COLBURN LLP

By: _____


David E. Rodrigues
Registration No. 50,604

Date: October 22, 2004
Customer No.: 23413
Telephone: (860) 286-2929